

MUST SAFEGUARD CHILDREN OF THE UNITED STATES FROM TERRIBLE STRAIN OF THE WAR

Charges of Gross Immorality Adjacent to Army Camps Have Been Found Unwarranted, Miss Julia C. Lathrop Declares in Her Report.

Washington, Dec. 10.—Why war's terrible strain on the children of belated countries, resulting in death, physical weakness, ignorance, untimely work and delinquency, must be warded off from the future citizens of the United States by "patriotic effort and sacrifice on the part of our civilian population" in carrying out a reasonable child welfare program, is set forth in the annual report of Julia C. Lathrop, Chief of the Children's Bureau of the Department of Labor.

Sensational reports of an alarming rate of illegitimate births adjacent to the great army camps and charges of gross immorality, were investigated by the bureau in three different cities, named in the charges, and in each case pronounced groundless.

"Absolutely no foundation could be found in any one of the three towns for the statements made about the girls there," says the report. "It was a case of rumors added to rumors swelling facts. The danger that immorality of illegitimacy will result from the camps exists, of course. Undoubtedly the alertness of Army and Navy officials in this country and to the need of providing decent opportunities for social life among the mobilized troops will be an important factor in preventing the rise of the illegitimate birth rate here.

"Protection must be afforded by proper policing, but far more by provision of ample social opportunities, ample hotel and boarding space of unquestionable character for every woman who visits a cantonment town for any legitimate reason, suitable chaperonage, and competent women guides to meet incoming trains.

"For the lack of any or all these safeguards young men and women cannot be held accountable. To provide them effectively is the business of officials and of civilians no longer young."

During the coming year, the Bureau expects to make a country-wide study of state provisions for the care and protection of dependent children and a study of juvenile courts with respect to the increase of youthful crime which experience in other countries has taught always follows war.

Studies of child welfare in the warring countries have shown that there has been a decrease in both the le-

gitimate and illegitimate births, but that the decrease in the former has been greater. To a smaller extent than in Europe, the report says, the problem of wartime illegitimacy exists here and "in making plans for government allowances (for dependents of soldiers) the question of support of illegitimate children of members of the military forces must be considered."

The pressing essentials of the program which the Bureau considers necessary to guard the United States against the aftermath of the war, are stated in the report as follows:

"1.—Public protection of maternity and infancy. (Last year 15,000 mothers and 300,000 children under five years of age died. Most of the deaths were preventable.)

"2.—Mothers' care for older children. Essentials: Adequate incomes, family allowances for soldiers' families, mothers' pensions for civilians, special provision for extraordinary needs, so far as required to enable mothers of older children to afford the home comfort and protection which are the best safeguard against delinquency.

"3.—Enforcement of all child labor laws and full schooling for all children of school age. Standards should be maintained in spite of war pressure.

"4.—Recreation for children and youth, abundant, decent, protected from any form of exploitation."

Permanent success in reducing infant mortality can be achieved only in connection with the protection of mothers, according to the report, which adds that investigations by the Bureau prove that an adequate income earned by the father of a family is essential. Studies made in eight cities showed that while the mortality among infants born to families having less than \$550 annual income was 162.5 in each thousand births, the average was reduced to 119.3 when the income ranged from \$550 to \$849, and was only 61.7 when the income was more than \$1,950.

Where mothers were forced to go into industry by reason of insufficient income, the infant death rate was more than twice as great as in families where the mothers remained at home. More than one-fourth, or 25.8 per cent. of the fathers of the families investigated, earned less than \$550 a year, while only one in eight,

or 13.1 per cent. had an income of \$1,250 or more. The cities investigated were Johnstown, Pa., Montclair, N. J., Manchester, N. H., Brockton, Mass., Waterbury, Conn., Akron, Ohio, Saginaw, Mich., and New Bedford, Mass.

The number of women in industry has increased since the United States entered the war and in the new workers an increase was found in the proportion of married women to single women. The high cost of living was given as one reason for the return of wives to positions in the Chicago stockyards which they held before marriage. The report adds:

"The employers feel that within the next few months it will be practically inevitable that this increase in the number of women employed and in the proportionate gain of married over single women will go still further."

While close studies of maternal and infant mortality have shown the superior healthfulness of the country over cities, as a whole, it was found that isolation and low incomes may together overbalance fresh air and wholesome surroundings. Particularly in western grazing states, where the population is sparse and scattered, it was found that lack of care and medical attention greatly increased the death rate among mothers and babies. Welfare work by industrial corporations in cities has reduced materially the mortality among mothers.

"The importance of the care a mother receives before and at her child's birth is being constantly more fully recognized," the report comments.

Whether or not children released from labor are obtaining the full benefits intended for them by the Child Labor Law will be the subject of future studies by the Bureau, which will endeavor to find out if they have gone into occupations not forbidden by law or are in school, or are both out of work and out of school. Chairman of the State Council of Defense have been asked to report on the number of children not in school.

LAST APPEAL TO SAVE WISE FROM GALLOWS DEATH

Hartford, Dec. 10.—A final appeal to save William J. Wise from the gallows was made to the board of pardons in session today at the state prison in Wethersfield. Wise killed Mrs. Anna Tobin in New Britain early on the morning of Sept. 29, while on leave of absence from Fort Slocum, where he was attached to the quartermaster department. At the trial he alleged that an unknown man had attacked Mrs. Tobin and him.

PITTSFIELD MAN KILLED.

Ottawa, Ont., Dec. 10.—E. L. Klipp of Pittsfield, Mass., is included among the Americans appearing in the Canadian overseas casualty list issued last night.

BELGIAN ARMY IS AGAIN READY FOR OFFENSIVE

Now Has Ten Divisions of Well Equipped and Patriotic Troops.

Havre, Dec. 10.—The Belgian army was composed of 117,000 men at the beginning of the war, increased by 20,000 volunteers in August, 1914, and was reduced to 60,000 men after the battle of the Yser. By measures applied to Belgian refugees and by the enlistment of volunteers who braved the live wire barriers raised by the Holland frontier, it now has been brought up to 10 divisions of well trained forces ready to take their part in the offensive of Flanders whenever the word is given by the Commander-in-Chief. The Associated Press is informed by the Belgian Minister of War.

"If our Army has not undertaken operations of a wider scope up to this time," said the Minister, "it is because it does not devolve on it to decide the moment when these operations should begin. The Army is only a part of the combined allied forces acting in unison and in accordance with carefully developed plans. The Army has valiantly filled the role, more ungrateful than glorious, that has been assigned to it. It has just proved by its brilliant participation in the last offensive in Flanders that it is ready to attack with fervor and awaits impatiently the hour."

Summarizing the work of the Belgian Army during the war and referring to its difficulties and lack of equipment, the Minister recalled that in August, 1914, the Army had only one machine gun for each 1,000 men, was short of 3-inch guns and had ammunition for only about 800 shots for each piece. It had no light mortars, no heavy artillery, no grenades, no trench equipment, no ambulances, no pontoon crews, and not a single motor cycle. It had only 1,000 big cyclic tanks and a few superannuated airplanes and a few posts of wireless telegraphy.

"We had only 32,000 infantry after the battle of the Yser," said the Minister and its equipment was in a pitiable state, munitions were lacking and all of the different organizations were damaged when the Army base was transferred to foreign soil. This retraining of an army not only barred the way to Calais but while doing so was reorganized and reinforced until now it counts three times the number of men that the battle of the Yser left. The front held by the Belgian Army has been gradually lengthened from about 12-15 miles after the battle of the Yser to 19 miles in June 1916. "The Belgian Army organized this front and held it alone until the middle of this year, when, as a consequence of the operations of the Allied offensive in Flanders it was reduced, enabling the Army to dispose of considerable reserves.

"The Belgian Army prepared more than 250 miles of trenches and rebuilt more than 20 miles of road. Eighty different lines of normal gauge railroads were built. Battery emplacements were constructed by hundreds, and thirteen thousand miles of telephone wires were put up, or laid underground.

"In August, 1917, the army had twelve times as many machine guns as in 1914, seven times as many field guns and heavy pieces with five times as much ammunition as was on hand at the outset of hostilities. It has ten times as many airplanes.

"Belgian aviators during three months' normal activity executed nearly 2,000 flights, of which 1,020 were in pursuit of adversary planes. All the different arms of the service have progressed and been improved in the ratio indicated by these figures.

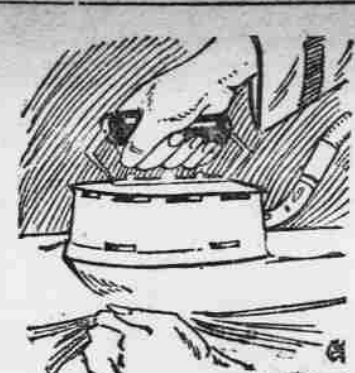
"The impression that has gone abroad that the Belgian army was organized and re-equipped entirely by the Allies is an error," the Minister added. "Belgium, exiled and deprived of all her resources, received generous hospitality and powerful aid from her glorious allies. It was on French and British soil that all was to be done, but Belgians themselves took up the work of reconstruction. The Belgian army created by its own effort, the greatest part of what was indispensable for it to live and fight. It is building its own cannon, making its own powder and its own projectiles. Our valiant troops have held in front of them continually a far greater number of German troops than the public has supposed."

GROWTH OF THE ARMY ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT

Washington, D. C., Dec. 10.—Before the war began the United States government employed approximately 500,000 persons in the civil branch. Now that this country is actually engaged in the conflict, the great army of workers behind the fighting forces is growing by tens of thousands. A good example of this rapid addition of employees is in the civilian force of the Ordnance Department of the Army. Seven large privately owned office buildings in Washington are required to house the officials and clerks of this force, in addition to the usual quarters in the State, War, and Navy Building, which were sufficient before Uncle Sam began to prepare for war. The Gun Division alone, which did not exist as a separate division before we entered the war, now has more than two thousand civilian employees besides that about three hundred commissioned officers, and it is estimated that this division will be three times its present size within a year. The great manufacturing plants of the Ordnance Department in various parts of the country employed about 10,000 men last spring. Now 20,000 are at work in these establishments.

The task of supplying these thousands of workers in the face of the greatest demand for labor the country has ever known is the problem of the United States Civil Service Commission. At this time great numbers of men and women are needed to fill stenographic and other positions in the offices at Washington and mechanical trades and technical positions in the government plants for manufacturing artillery and ammunition. The local boards of civil service examiners at the post offices in all cities are furnishing detailed information concerning positions in which men and women are needed.

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NO GOVERNMENT OPERATION FOR ROADS NEEDED

Officials Prepare to Carry Out Priority Orders Immediately.

Washington, Dec. 8.—Indications today were that fuel, food and railroad war board officials, seeking solution of the transportation problem, are willing to deal with the situation, temporarily at least, without immediate action from President Wilson and congress.

While no move to define the government's attitude toward the railroads, involving suggestions for either government operation for the war or suspension of anti-trust laws and financial support was expected until after President Wilson's conference with Senator Newlands on Monday, plans went rapidly forward today to perfect the priority order for shipment of fuel, food and government supplies, issued last night.

The order promulgated by Robert S. Lovett, director of priority, is effective Dec. 12 and gives preferential shipment to the three classes of commodities over all general freight. It constitutes one of the three important developments yesterday designed to relieve the situation.

Another was an intimation from the railroad was board that the government will name a traffic manager. The board has been urging the appointment of such a man to coordinate demands by various government departments for priority for their shipments. Edward P. Chamberlain, traffic manager for the food administration, has been suggested for the place.

The third development came in the form of a statement from Fairfax Harrison, the railroad board chairman, and asserted that the roads under their present direction are prepared to furnish all the transportation possible to obtain under any management. It was interpreted as an answer to the suggestion that the government operate the railroad, and replied to declarations that railroads had "broken down" under the strain of the war. It pointed out that the railroads had moved without substantial complaints the largest volume of business in the history of the country and the recent action of the eastern made in combining facilities already is reducing congestion.

New York city contributed 1,533 more men to the Yaphank army of drafted men.

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Baby Pins	25c to \$ 4.00	LaValliers & Pendants	
Bon Bon Dishes	\$1.00 to \$ 3.00		
Bracelets	75c to \$ 50.00	Match Safes	50c to \$ 5.00
Brooches	50c to \$250.00	Opera Glasses	\$3.00 to \$ 12.00
Chains, all kinds	75c to \$ 45.00	Rings (with stones)	40c to \$ 25.00
Clocks	\$1.00 to \$ 50.00	Rings (Signets)	50c to \$ 15.00
Coffee Sets	\$5.00 to \$ 10.00	Rosaries	\$1.00 to \$ 5.00
Cuff Buttons	50c to \$ 30.00	Shaving Sets	\$3.50 to \$ 15.00
Cut Glass	\$1.00 to \$ 15.00	Society Emblems	50c to \$ 15.00
Diamond Brooches	\$5.00 to \$300.00	Tea Sets	\$5.00 to \$ 25.00
Diamond Rings	\$5.00 to \$500.00	Thimbles—	
Diamond Scarf Pins	\$5.00 to \$100.00	(gold and silver)	35c to \$ 5.00
Fobs	50c to \$ 20.00	Tie Clasps	50c to \$ 8.00
Fountain Pens	\$1.00 to \$ 5.00	Toilet sets (sterling)	\$12.00 to \$ 35.00
Hat Pins	50c to \$ 5.00	Toilet sets (plated)	\$5.00 to \$ 9.00
Jewel Cases	50c to \$ 8.00	Umbrellas	\$1.00 to \$ 12.00
Knives (Pocket) Gold	\$4.00 to \$ 5.00	Waist Pin Sets	35c to \$ 40.00
Knives and Forks Set	\$2.75 to \$ 5.00	Watches	\$1.00 to \$150.00
Locketts	75c to \$ 50.00		

A lot of other Novelties too numerous to mention.

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OYSTERS

VON BERNSTORFF IS MARRIED TO AMERICAN GIRL

Berlin, Dec. 8, via London, Dec. 10.—The marriage here today of Count Christian Gunther von Bernstorff, son of the former ambassador to the United States, to Mrs. Marguerite Vivian Burton Thomaston of Burlington, N. J., is reported by the Berlin newspapers.

Count Christian Gunther von Bernstorff is 26 years old. He visited the United States with his father in 1911 and in June, 1913, he entered the office of Speyer & Co., New York bankers, as a junior clerk. He spent about a year in the banking house before entering the German diplomatic service.

In February, 1915, the Iron Cross was conferred on him and at Christmas time that year Count Christian was reported sick in Berlin.

HUGHES TO PAY VISIT TO WILSON

Washington, Dec. 10.—Charles E. Hughes will call on President Wilson today. It was announced at the White House that Mr. Hughes would see the president at 4 p. m., but no intimation was given as to the object of his call or whether the meeting was arranged at the instance of the president or Mr. Hughes.

Today's meeting between the two men will be the first time they have seen each other since before the presidential election.

FRENCH WILL TALK PEACE AIMS WITH RUSSIAN PEOPLE

London, Dec. 10.—Maurice Paleologue, the French ambassador to Russia, according to the Petrograd correspondent of the Times, has issued a declaration which includes a statement of willingness to discuss war aims and peace terms with the Russian government as soon as it is established and recognized. It is added that the declaration is similar to one made by Sir George Buchanan, the British ambassador.

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WREATHS
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It will be a long time after the war ends when you can buy many articles at the extraordinary low prices they are offered in this sale. Particularly Rugs, which are going for less than the wholesale mill prices prevailing to-day. We are not wasting much space to elaborate on this matter.

It is simply up to you to read this advertisement over carefully and then get busy quick and take advantage of this rare money saving opportunity on the terms named below if you are in a position to do so. You really save nearly double what we tell you, because the discounts are quoted from our regular low fall prices which are much lower than they will be next season. In fact it is a question whether we can supply many things you can buy here now at any price next year.

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